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INFORMATION REPORT

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- The synthetic fiber industry in the Russian Zone of Germany has assumed the role of a key industry as a result of the difficulty of importing raw materials for the textile industry. Factories in the Zone produce B and W type cellulose, cellulose jute (Zelljute), viscose synthetic silk, ~~copper~~ synthetic silk (Kupferkunstseide)¹, Perlon, and special cord silk. In 1949 the Russian Zone produced 74,500 tons of synthetic fibers and 49,200 tons of natural fibers, including materials made from rice fibers, (sic).
- Production goals for 1955, established under the Five-Year Plan for synthetic silk and synthetic fibers, vary only slightly from preliminary figures given in the draft of the Plan. They are listed in the following table:

	1955 Production Goal in Tons	1955: 1950 in Percent	Draft of 1955 Production in Tons	1955: 1950 in Percent
Synthetic silk	34,500	367	32,000	314
Synthetic fibers	126,800	148.5	126,000	154

- The following table indicates the development of synthetic fiber production in the Russian Zone. The amounts are in tons.

Item	Production		Goals	
	1950	1951	1952	1955
Textiles	101,000	110,000.0	-	170,000
B-type cellulose	36,500	33,526.6	34,260.0	-
W-type cellulose	48,500	51,824.4	53,000.0	-
Cellulose, total	85,000	85,351.0	87,260.0	126,800
Synthetic silk	9,400	13,305.4	16,280.0	34,500
Perlon	460	856.0	1,260.0	4,000 (approximately)

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4. A certain part of the synthetic textile production is reserved for the manufacture of explosives.
5. Continual difficulties are experienced in the manufacture of synthetic textiles because of the scarcity of sulphuric acid and of sodium hydroxide. B-type cellulose, which has short fibers, is processed like cotton and can be combined with it; W-type cellulose has long fibers, is processed like wool, and can be combined with it.
5. Since the supply of pulpwood for making cellulose is uncertain, expanded production, as foreseen by the Five-Year Plan, can only be realized by an increase in pulpwood imports. Even formerly, it was not always possible to cover requirements from domestic resources because of excessive Russian demands for wood, used in the construction of ships and for crating reparations goods.
6. The lumbering of close-grained wood of various kinds is to be carried out in accordance with the following schedule:

1950 -	100.00 percent
1951 -	94.08 percent
1952 -	85.66 percent
1953 -	85.66 percent
1954 -	86.00 percent
1955 -	88.40 percent
7. Because of the scarcity of wood, extensive research on the production of synthetic fibers from inorganic materials is being conducted. Inorganic materials, needed for the production of "Pe-Ce", Perlon, and Orlon, are available in sufficient quantities in the Russian Zone.
8. The most important base material for producing Perlon fibers is hard coal phenol, production of which has already surpassed that of 1949. Orlon fibers have not yet been produced. However, the basic materials needed for production, such as carbon, hydrogen, and acetylene, are available in sufficient quantities in the Russian Zone.
9. The chief function of the Institute for Fiber Material Research (Institut fuer Faserstofforschung) in Teltow-Seehof is research on the following: the production of cellulose synthetic fibers using wood as the base material; the improvement of existing methods for producing synthetic fibers; and, the development of new methods.
10. Experiments in actual production, employing results obtained at Teltow-Seehof, are conducted at the Institute of Fiber Technology (Institut fuer Technologie der Fasern).
11. The following are the most important fiber-producing factories in the Russian Zone:
 - a. Zellwollwerk Wilhelm Pieck in Schwarza, Thuringia, which produces cellulose and has produced Perlon since 1950. Another Perlon factory, which should be in operation by the second half of 1953, is being constructed here.
 - b. Zellstoff-und Zellwollwerke Wittenberge (formerly Kurmaerkische Zellwolle). This plant had been completely dismantled and had to be completely rebuilt.
 - c. Saechsische Zellwolle, Plauen.
 - d. Spinnstoffwerk Glauchau, Saxony.
 - e. Kunstseidenwerk Friedrich Engels in Premnitz, which produces silk and Perlon. In the course of the Five-Year Plan the number of spinning mills will be more than quintupled. The number of employees will be approximately 7,000 in 1955.

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- f. Saechsische Kunstseidenwerke, Pirna-Copitz (Formerly Klettner AG).
- g. Spinnfaser Elsterberg.
- h. SAG Filmfabrik Wolfen near Bittenfeld. Perlön, "Pe-Ce" fibers, synthetic silk, and, most important of all, special cord silk are produced in the synthetic fiber department.
- i. In 1949 construction of a new cellulose factory in Magdeburg-Rothensee was begun. The project was stopped, however, because of material shortages. This plant is to be completed in the course of the Five-Year Plan and is to produce approximately 70,000 tons of textile fibers a year.

- 1. Comment: Possibly metallic cloth.

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